

Mr. Peters' Cray-Cray Test Review Packet

Historical Period 6 – The Gilded Age (1865-1898)

The transformation of the United States from an agricultural to an increasingly industrialized and urbanized society brought about significant economic, political, diplomatic, social, environmental, and cultural changes.

Key Concepts 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3

- ✓ Technological advances, large-scale production methods, and the opening of new markets encouraged the rise of industrial capitalism in the United States.
- ✓ Large-scale industrial production — accompanied by massive technological change, expanding international communication networks, and pro-growth government policies — generated rapid economic development and business consolidation.
- ✓ A variety of perspectives on the economy and labor developed during a time of financial panics and downturns.
- ✓ New systems of production and transportation enabled consolidation within agriculture, which, along with periods of instability, spurred a variety of responses from farmers.
- ✓ The migrations that accompanied industrialization transformed both urban and rural areas of the United States and caused dramatic social and cultural change.
- ✓ International and internal migration increased urban populations and fostered the growth of a new urban culture.
- ✓ Larger numbers of migrants moved to the West in search of land and economic opportunity, frequently provoking competition and violent conflict.
- ✓ The Gilded Age produced new cultural and intellectual movements, public reform efforts, and political debates over economic and social policies.
- ✓ New cultural and intellectual movements both buttressed and challenged the social order of the Gilded Age.
- ✓ Dramatic social changes in the period inspired political debates over citizenship, corruption, and the proper relationship between business and government.

The Industrial Revolution

Following the Civil War, government subsidies for transportation and communication systems helped open new markets in North America. Businesses made use of technological innovations, greater access to natural resources, redesigned financial and management structures, advances in marketing, and a growing labor force to dramatically increase the production of goods. As the price of many goods decreased, workers' real wages increased, providing new access to a variety of goods and services; many Americans' standards of living improved, while the gap between rich and poor grew. Businesses and foreign policymakers increasingly looked outside U.S. borders in an effort to gain greater influence and control over markets and natural resources in the Pacific Rim, Asia, and Latin America. Corporations' need for managers and for male and female clerical workers as well as increased access to educational institutions, fostered the growth of a distinctive middle class. A growing amount of leisure time also helped expand consumer culture.

Frederick Taylor - Engineer who created the principles of scientific management to make factory production faster and more efficient.

Formation of Trusts and Monopolies

Many business leaders sought increased profits by consolidating corporations into large trusts and holding companies, which further concentrated wealth.

Sherman Anti-Trust Act, 1890 - Law that authorized the federal government to break up any business combination that was "in restraint of trade." Intended to break up monopolies, the law was instead used primarily against labor unions.

J.P. Morgan - Powerful financier and banker who controlled American finance. His dedication to modernization transformed American business.

John D. Rockefeller - Industrialist who amassed a great fortune through the Standard Oil Trust.

Andrew Carnegie - Scottish-born industrialist who made a fortune in steel.

Horizontal Integration - Merging one or more companies of the same business activity. Standard Oil used horizontal integration to limit competition and increase profits.

Vertical Integration - A single company brings together several activities used in the process of creating a product, such as the acquisition of raw materials. The manufacturing of the product, and the marketing, selling, and distribution of the product. Carnegie Steel used vertical integration to increase profits

Robber Baron - Derogatory term that refers to the industrialists and bankers of the late 1800s who placed profits over the public interest.

Conspicuous Consumption - Term coined by the economist Thorstein Veblen that refers to how people spend money in excess of what is necessary to fulfill their needs. People openly consume products they don't need in order to gain social status.

Gilded Age - Term coined by Mark Twain which refers to the celebration of wealth and conspicuous consumption that became part of American culture in the late 1800s.

The American Labor Movement

The industrial workforce expanded and became more diverse through internal and international migration; child labor also increased. Labor and management battled over wages and working conditions, with workers organizing local and national unions and/ or directly confronting business leaders.

Knights of Labor, 1869 - Nationwide labor union that was open to all workers. The union reached its peak in 1886 before beginning a decline in membership.

Great Railroad Strike of 1877 - Strike triggered by wage cuts for railroad workers that spread nationwide. President Rutherford Hayes ordered U.S. troops to end the strike.

Haymarket Square 1886 - After police fired into a crowd of 100,000 protesting workers in Chicago, the workers met and rallied in Haymarket Square to protest police brutality. A bomb exploded, killing or injuring many of the police, promoting anti-union and anti-immigrant feelings.

Homestead Strike, 1892 - Strike at a Carnegie's steel plant 1892. Company officials called 300 armed Pinkerton detectives in July to stop strikers who were angry over pay cuts. Armed strikers forced them to surrender in a battle that killed 10 people and left 60 wounded.

Pullman Strike, 1894 - Due to poor wages for Pullman workers and a shutdown of western railroads, workers for the Pullman Palace Car Company in Chicago went on strike.

American Federation of Labor (AFL), 1886 - Nationwide labor union that by the 1890s was open only to skilled, white workers. The AFL was known as a "bread and butter" union because it sought only to achieve higher wages, minimize hours, and improve working conditions rather than transform American society.

Eugene Debs - Head of the American Railway Union and leader of the Pullman strike, which led to his imprisonment for ignoring a federal court injunction to stop striking. While in prison he became a socialist and ran for president five times as the Socialist Party's candidate for president.

Samuel Gompers - Cigar maker who founded the American Federation of Labor.

Mother Jones - Nickname for Mary Harris Jones, an Irish-American woman who became a prominent labor organizer. She led several significant strikes and cofounded the radical Industrial Workers of the World in 1905.

The Southern Economy

Despite the industrialization of some segments of the Southern economy — a change promoted by Southern leaders who called for a "New South" — agriculture based on sharecropping and tenant farming continued to be the primary economic activity in the South.

The New South - Term that was used by southerners who wanted to promote economic changes in the South. The changes included industrialization, diversification of crops, and integration with the national economy.

Sharecropping (tenant farming) - A system of credit used by cotton farmers in the South. Sharecroppers who did not own the

land they worked obtained supplies and food on credit from local merchants. They held a lien on the cotton crop and the merchants and landowners were the first ones paid from its sale. What was left over went to the farmer.

American Social and Economic Theory

Some argued that laissez-faire policies and competition promoted economic growth in the long run, and they opposed government intervention during economic downturns. Social commentators advocated theories later described as Social Darwinism to justify the success of those at the top of the socioeconomic structure as both appropriate and inevitable. Some business leaders argued that the wealthy had a moral obligation to help the less fortunate and improve society, as articulated in the idea known as the Gospel of Wealth, and they made philanthropic contributions that enhanced educational opportunities and urban environments. A number of artists and critics, including agrarians, utopians, socialists, and advocates of the Social Gospel, championed alternative visions for the economy and U.S. society.

Laissez Faire - The principle that government should not interfere in the workings of a free market economy.

Social Darwinism - Philosophy that competition leads to the betterment of society through the survival of the fittest. Social Darwinists are opposed to regulating competition or assisting the poor.

Henry George - Economic reformer whose book, *Progress and Poverty* (1879), advocated solving problems of economic inequality by a single tax on the value of unused land.

Edward Bellamy - Author of *Looking Backward* (1888), a utopian novel that described the world of the future. According to Bellamy, the world in 2000 would be based on a new social order in which poverty and corrupt politics were unknown and cooperation had replaced competition.

Gospel of Wealth - Andrew Carnegie's idea that the people who possess great wealth had an obligation to use their wealth for the public good.

Social Gospel - Religious doctrine preached by those who believed that Christian churches should directly address economic and social problems.

Farmers' Organizations

Improvements in mechanization helped agricultural production increase substantially and contributed to declines in food prices. Many farmers responded to the increasing consolidation in agricultural markets and their dependence on the evolving railroad system by creating local and regional cooperative organizations.

Grange, 1867 - Organization that brought farmers together to promote their economic and political interests.

Colored Farmers' Alliance, 1886 - Organization of African American farmers in Texas who had been barred from joining the Southern Farmers' Alliance. Fought against rising farm costs and high interest rates.

Las Gorras Blancas (The "White Caps"), 1889 - Secret organization of Spanish-speaking New Mexicans that fought against Anglo-Americans who had taken land away from Hispanic families.

Granger Laws - Laws passed by mid-western states in the late 1860s and early 1870s to help farmers, primarily by regulating railroads.

Farmers' Alliance - Farmer 's organization in the 1870s and 1880s that supported government regulation of the railroad, establishment of an income tax , and cheap money (inflation) to help farmers.

The Populist Movement

Economic instability inspired agrarian activists to create the People's (Populist) Party, which called for a stronger governmental role in regulating the American economic system.

People's (Populist) Party, 1891 - Political party created by farmers (primarily in the South and Midwest) who had been hurt by debt, low prices for their crops, and railroad monopolies.

Omaha Platform, 1892 - The political platform of the Populist Party in the election of 1892. The platform called for the free coinage of silver, the abolition of national banks, a graduated income tax, direct election of Senators, civil service reform, a working day of eight hours and government control of all railroads, telegraphs, and telephones.

Panic of 1893 - Deep economic depression caused by high protective tariffs and a return to the gold standard

William Jennings Bryan, 1896 - U.S. representative from Kansas who became the nominee of both the Democratic and Populist Parties in 1896 after his famous "Cross of Gold" speech. Bryan campaigned against the gold standard, calling for the free coinage of silver.

Gold Standard - Monetary system in which currency is based upon a fixed quantity of gold. Debtors are often hurt by the higher interest rates and the deflationary pressure associated with the gold standard.

Free Silver - A central cause of the Populist movement. Populists favored the "free coinage of silver" to inflate the American economy and allow farmers to more easily pay debts.

Immigration and Domestic Migration during the Late 1800s

As cities became areas of economic growth featuring new factories and businesses, they attracted immigrants from Asia and from southern and eastern Europe, as well as African American migrants within and out of the South. Many migrants moved to escape poverty, religious persecution, and limited opportunities for social mobility in their home countries or regions. Increasing public debates over assimilation and Americanization accompanied the growth of international migration. Many immigrants negotiated compromises between the cultures they brought and the culture they found in the United States.

Chinese Exclusion Act, 1882 - Law that prohibited Chinese laborers from entering the United States.

American Protective Association, 1887 - Organization created by American nativists that campaigned for laws to restrict immigration.

Old Immigration - Immigrants from northern and western Europe who made up most of the immigration to the United States before the 1890s.

New Immigration - Immigrants who came primarily from southern and eastern Europe and began to arrive in the United States during the 1890s. New Immigrants generally did not assimilate as well as Old Immigrants.

Ellis Island - Island in New York Harbor that served as the inspection station for millions of immigrants coming to the United States from 1892 to 1954.

Assimilation - Process by which immigrant and minority groups were absorbed into the dominant culture of a society.

The Effect of Urbanization on Politics, Society, and Culture

Urban neighborhoods based on particular ethnicities, races, and classes provided new cultural opportunities for city dwellers. In an urban atmosphere where the access to power was unequally distributed, political machines thrived, in part by providing immigrants and the poor with social services.

Tenements - A tenement is, in most English-speaking areas, a substandard multi-family dwelling in the urban core, usually old and occupied by the poor.

Migration to the American West

The building of transcontinental railroads, the discovery of mineral resources, and government policies promoted economic growth and created new communities and centers of commercial activity. In hopes of achieving ideals of self-sufficiency and independence, migrants moved to both rural and boomtown areas of the West for opportunities, such as building the railroads, mining, farming, and ranching.

Morrill Land-Grant Acts, 1862 and 1890 - Laws passed that granted federal land to states for the purpose of building colleges.

Railroad Subsidies - Government grants of land or money to railroad companies to build railroads in the West.

Frederick Jackson Turner - Historian who argued that cheap, abundant land and the settlement of the American West were the

dominant factors in creating American democracy & shaping the national character.

The Conquest of the West

As migrant populations increased in number and the American bison population was decimated, competition for land and resources in the West among white settlers, American Indians, and Mexican Americans led to an increase in violent conflict. The U.S. government violated treaties with American Indians and responded to resistance with military force, eventually confining American Indians to reservations and denying tribal sovereignty. Many American Indians preserved their cultures and tribal identities despite government policies promoting assimilation, and they attempted to develop self-sustaining economic practices.

Great Sioux War, 1876-1881 - War between the U.S. army and the tribes (Lakota, Cheyenne, and Arapaho) that took part in the Battle of the Little Big Horn. The war ended in 1881 with the surrender of Sitting Bull

Little Big Horn, 1876 - River in Montana where George Custer and the U.S. cavalry attacked an Indian encampment. Most of Custer's force died in the battle.

Dawes Severalty Act, 1887 - Law that intended to break up Indian reservations into individual farms and turn American Indians into homesteaders. Designed to end common ownership of the land. Surplus lands were sold to raise money for Indian education

Crazy Horse - Lakota leader who resisted white movement into the Black Hills and fought at the Battle of Little Big Horn. Killed by U.S. soldiers in 1877

Sitting Bull - Lakota holy man who led a resistance against U.S. government policies toward Indians. His visions led to the battle of Little Big Horn. Killed in the massacre at Wounded Knee in 1890.

Chief Joseph - Nez Perce chief in the Northwest who led his tribe in an attempt to escape to Canada in 1877. U.S. troops forced him to surrender. He and his people were exiled to a reservation.

Helen Hunt Jackson - Author of A Century of Dishonor (1881), a book that advocated improved treatment of American Indians.

Ghost Dance - Indian belief that centered on a ritual dance that would bring about an Indian messiah who would banish the whites, bring back the buffalo, and restore land to the Indians.

Government Corruption and Reform

The major political parties appealed to lingering divisions from the Civil War and contended over tariffs and currency issues, even as reformers argued that economic greed and self-interest had corrupted all levels of government.

Pendleton Act, 1883 - Law that created the Civil Service Commission and instituted the merit system for federal hiring and jobs.

Interstate Commerce Act, 1887 - The first federal regulatory agency. Established to regulate railroads.

Patronage (spoils system) - The practice of granting government appointments to friends, political supporters, and party loyalists.

Crédit Mobilier - Company created to build the Union Pacific Railroad. In 1872 it was discovered that Credit Mobilier bribed congressmen to gain federal subsidies for the construction of the railroad.

Tammany Hall (Tweed Ring) - Corrupt political organization that controlled New York.

Whiskey Ring - Distillers and revenue officials in St. Louis who defrauded the government of millions of dollars.

Mugwumps - Reformers (mostly Republicans) who wanted civil service reform and an end to political corruption

Thomas Nast - Thomas Nast was a German-born American caricaturist and editorial cartoonist considered to be the "Father of the American Cartoon". He was the scourge of Democratic Representative "Boss" Tweed and the Tammany Hall Democratic party political machine.

Australian (secret) Ballot - Election ballot printed by the government rather than political parties that was marked privately by

voters. Most states had moved to the secret ballot by the 1880s with Kentucky the last state to adopt a secret ballot in 1891.

Initiative and Referendum - A state-level method of direct legislation that gave voters a chance to introduce, approve or disapprove proposed legislation or proposed constitutional amendments.

Socialism - System of government that provides for more government regulation of business and government ownership of some businesses.

Discrimination and Segregation

The Supreme Court decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson* that upheld racial segregation helped to mark the end of most of the political gains African Americans made during Reconstruction. Facing increased violence, discrimination, and scientific theories of race, African American reformers continued to fight for political and social equality.

Atlanta Compromise, 1895 - Speech made by Booker T Washington in which he urged African Americans to accept disenfranchisement and segregation for the time being, working for economic advancement instead.

Plessy v. Ferguson, 1896 - *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537, was a landmark United States Supreme Court decision upholding the constitutionality of state laws requiring racial segregation in public facilities under the doctrine of "separate but equal."

Jim Crow Laws - Jim Crow was not a person, yet affected the lives of millions of people. Named after a popular 19th-century minstrel song that stereotyped African Americans, "Jim Crow" came to personify the system of government-sanctioned racial oppression and segregation in the United States.

Grandfather Clause - A statute enacted by many American southern states in the wake of Reconstruction (1865-1877) that allowed potential white voters to circumvent literacy tests, poll taxes, & other tactics designed to disenfranchise southern blacks.

Booker T. Washington - Former slave who became an educator and founded Tuskegee Institute to provide training in agriculture and crafts for African American students

Ida Wells-Barnett - African American civil rights activist who championed anti-lynching legislation

W.E.B. DuBois - African American historian and civil rights activist. One of the cofounders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909.

Women's Activism and the Struggle for Women's Rights

Many women sought greater equality with men, often joining voluntary organizations, going to college, promoting social and political reform, and, like Jane Addams, working in settlement houses to help immigrants adapt to U.S. language and customs.

National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA), 1869 - Organization led by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony that fought for women's suffrage, equal rights for women, and the right for women to join labor unions. Accepted only women as members.

American Women Suffrage Association (AWSA), 1869- Organization led by Lucy Stone and Julia Ward Howard that fought only for women's suffrage. Accepted men as members.

Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU), 1874 - Women's organization that opposed alcoholic beverages and supported reforms such as women's suffrage.

Jane Addams - Founded a settlement house (Hull House) in Chicago in 1889 that offered practical help and material aid to immigrants. Widely regarded as the greatest American woman of the early 1900s. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931.

Lillian Wald - Founder of a settlement house in New York City in 1893. Began the movement to improve medical care for all citizens and to improve the way that medical professionals acted case by case. Advocate for child labor legislation and woman's suffrage.

Historical Period 6 – The Gilded Age (1865-1898)

New Problems, New Solutions

- Politics were divorced from meaningful issues of the day
- Graduated income tax was enacted during Civil War and then reenacted in 1894 to maneuver tariff reform but then declared unconstitutional
- Politicians clung too long to outworn issues and neglected new principles to solve problems

The Triumph of Self-Interest

- The resources of the U.S. and high value of work and achievement made people materialistic
- There was a glorification of money and products
- After failure of Reconstruction, many believed strongly in a government policy of noninterference, or laissez faire
- People tolerated grossest kind of waste and cared little about corruption, as long as no one interfered with their own profit
- This age was called the Gilded Age by Mark Twain, stating it was dazzling on the surface, base metal below
- Charles Darwin influenced the theory of evolution among Americans, stating nature was governed by natural selection of those individuals best adapted to survive in environment
- Professor William Sumner used the survival-of-the-fittest analogy, called social Darwinism, the belief that activities of people were governed by Darwinian principle that the fittest always survived if allowed to exercise their capacities without restriction
- Most people were sincere citizens who believed in competition, and thought nation would prosper if all were free to seek own fortunes

Congress Ascendant

- Succession of weak presidents made Congress dominate the government
- Senate, containing many millionaires, often overshadowed the House of representatives due its long tenure of its members
- The House was disorderly and inefficient
- Political parties seldom took clearly opposing positions
- Democrats separated from Republicans more by geography, religion, ethnicity, and emotion rather than economic issues
- Fundamental division between two parties was sectional
- The South was heavily Democratic, along with powerful business leaders and New England and well-to-do cultured Northerners was mostly Republican
- Personalities of political leaders often dictated voting patterns of individuals and groups
- Bulk of people distributed ballots fairly evenly between parties
- Between 1876 and 1896 Republican party controlled both houses, but the presidency for only one 2-year period

The Political Aftermath of War

- Waving the bloody shirt in the House was a tactic that reminded the electorate of northern states that men who had taken South out of the Union and precipitated the Civil War had been Democrats
- Used tactic to divert attention of northern voters from his own shortcomings, which was successful
- Republicans in order to build up organization in South appealed to black voters, requiring black vote and to win conservative white support by stressing economic issues
- After the Civil War, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) put pressure on Congress to aid veterans with disabilities and then later for all former Union soldiers
- Another issue involved tariffs. Most did not believe in eliminating duties on imports. Manufacturers desired protective tariffs and their workers were convinced wage levels would fall if goods entered untaxed
- Farmers supported protection
- Congressman William McKinley stated high tariffs foster the growth of industry and create jobs
- Tariff was a political issue because technology was advancing so rapidly that industries no longer required protection from foreign competitors
- Many Republicans endorsed tariff reform in principle, but most demanded high rates for industries in own districts & traded votes
- New tariff bills became occasion for lobbying and outrageous politicking rather than public interest

- Currency reform was another political question
- Greenbacks did not command full confidence of people and threatened inflation
- Strong sentiment developed to withdraw greenbacks and return to bullion standard
- During Reconstruction, prices actually declined sharply which injured debtors and farmers
- The National Greenback party and Greenback Labor party supported currency inflation
- Most western Republicans favored expansion of the currency and the conservative Democrats favored deflation
- In 1874, a bill to increase greenback supply was defeated by Congress and President Grant
- Many congressman introduced proposals to coin large amounts of silver
- Last political issue was civil service reform
- The federal bureaucracy needed overhauling, government took on more functions, need for professional administration increased, number of federal employees rose, corruption flourished, collection of tariff duties full of corruption
- There was a succession of ineffective presidents and Congress that concentrated on private bills was inefficient
- Both parties ridiculed civil service reformers because they believed patronage was lifeblood of politics and they could not function without loyal workers

Blacks After Reconstruction

- Minorities were treated with contempt in postwar decades
- President Hayes had said a new Era of Good Feelings had dawned and that citizens have been deprived of right of suffrage but did nothing to remedy the situation
- President Garfield had no policy at all
- President Arthur gave patronage to anti-black groups
- President Cleveland opposed mixed schools
- Both parties had hypocritical statements about equality and constitutional rights
- In 1890s, southern states began to deprive blacks of vote, poll taxes formed economic barrier, and literacy tests completed the work
- Almost every Supreme Court decision after 1877 nullified or curtails the blacks rights
- In Hall v. De Cuir, Court threw out state law forbidding segregation on riverboats
- In the Civil Rights Cases, in 1883, it was declared that the Civil Rights Act of 1875 was unconstitutional
- 14th Amendment guaranteed rights against states, not by individuals
- In Plessey v. Ferguson, Court ruled that places of public accommodation, segregation was legal as long as facilities of equal quality were provided
- Separate schools, prisons, hospitals, recreational facilities and cemeteries were segregated
- Most Northerners supported the government
- White rule halted progress in public education for blacks
- The Peabody Fund and Slater Fund supported blacks schools after 1877
- Schools only survived because they taught a philosophy that they were second-class citizens and were to become farmers and craftsmen

Booker T. Washington: A "Reasonable" Champion for Blacks

- Educated Northerners generally accepted black inferiority as fact
- By denying blacks education and jobs, dominant race could use blacks ignorance and poverty to justify inferiority
- Southerners redressed racial pride, some tried to revive African colonization movement, led by Bishop Henry Turner, and some called for full civil rights, better schools, and fair wages to fight discrimination led by T. Thomas Fortune, founder of Afro- American League in 1887
- Segregation helped numbers of south blacks to have jobs due to reluctance to supply services to blacks
- Booker T. Washington was born a slave in 1856 and laboriously obtained education, while supporting himself
- He founded Tuskegee Instituted in Alabama
- He was convinced blacks must lift themselves up by own bootstraps but also accommodate themselves to white prejudices
- He supported self-improvement and asked whites to lend blacks a hand in efforts, called the "Atlanta Compromise"
- He was capable of influencing countless unobtrusive ways of the fate of blacks
- Blacks responded to compromise with mixed feelings
- Although it might relieve burdens, they would have to give up rights in return for promises of future help
- Surrendered personal dignity and lost hopes of obtain justice
- Blacks had to choose between confrontation and accommodation
- The Atlanta Compromise could be considered a form of subtle black nationalism and accommodation

- Washington accepted separate but equal facilities but also lobbied against restrictive measures, marshaled money to fight cases in courts, and organized the black vote

White Violence and Vengeance

- Southern whites had tried to replace legal subjugation of slavery with psychological subjugation through terror
- From 1890 through 1910, nearly hundred blacks lynched each year
- White fears excited by rumors of black males as rapists and predators
- While blacks were run out of public spaces, women took an increasingly prominent role as spokespersons in religious and reform associations
- They wanted white men to uphold Christian brotherhood, and to do their duty in protecting women
- Few male sharecroppers, industrial workers, and many working-class women were unpersuaded of domesticity

The West after the CIVIL WAR

- Many parts of region had large percentage of foreign-born residents
- There were large populations of Spanish-speaking Americans of Mexican origin over Southwest and Chinese and Irish were pouring into California, along with Germans in Texas
- The West contained several bustling cities like San Francisco, which became commercial & financial heart of Pacific Coast
- Denver, San Antonio, and Salt Lake City were smaller but also growing
- Economy was agricultural and commercial
- West epitomized the social Darwinist
- Although blacks migrated to Kansas for better treatment, they still encountered bad treatment, as well as in California
- About 4 or 5 thousand a year Chinese migrated to the U.S, until negotiation of Burlingame Treaty in 1868, which provided cheap labor for railroad construction crews. Annual influx more than doubled
- When Chinese began to compete with native workers, resentment went up and riots broke out in San Francisco
- In 1879, California constitution denied right to vote to any native of China along with the insane and criminals
- Protests reached such a peak that Congress prohibited all Chinese immigration for 10 years

The Plains Indians

- By Hayes inauguration, Indians had been shattered as independent peoples and they were later penned up on reservations
- In 1860, eastern tribes were living peacefully in Indian Territory (Oklahoma)
- In the west, in such areas as deserts of Great Basin, in the mountains, and on grass-covered plains between the Rockies, many Indians dominated the land
- The most important lived on the High Plains
- The Plains tribes, Blackfeet, Sioux, Dakotas, Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Comanche, had a generally uniform culture
- All lived by hunting bison, which provided food, clothing, and shelter
- Although they seemed the epitome of freedom, pride, and self-reliance, Plains Indians begun to fall under white power
- The adopted products of more technically advanced culture such as cloth, metal tools, and weapons
- The whites gave the Indians the very important horse, which became vital to Indians of Plains, as they could now run down buffalo, move more easily, and acquire more possessions
- The Indians adopted the cavalry sword and the rifled which added to their effectiveness as hunters and fighters
- Horses and guns caused problems as buffalo began to diminish and warfare became bloodier
- After start of gold rush, tribes were pushed aside
- In 1841, Tomas Fitzpatrick, a mountain man, founder of Rocky Mountain Fur Company, scout for settlers and soldiers during Mexican War, summoned a great council of tribes at Horse Creek
- Indians respected Fitzpatrick, and he persuaded each tribe to accept definite limits to hunting grounds in exchange for furs and annual payments
- This policy was called concentration and was to cut down on intertribal warfare and to enable government to negotiate separately with each tribe
- The U.S. maintained that each tribe was a sovereign nation but Indians had admitted defeat by agreeing to meet in council and tribal chiefs had only limited power

Indian Wars

- Government showed little interest in honoring agreements with Indians
- Gold rush into Colorado in 1859 sent prospectors across Plains to drive Indians from land guaranteed them

- Most Plains Indians rose up against whites with guerrilla warfare after federal troops had been pulled out of West
- In 1864, party of Colorado militia fell on Cheyenne community at Sand Creek and killed many and was marked the Chivington massacre as people were scalped and mutilated
- In return, Indians slaughtered dozens of white families, ambushed small parties, and fought skirmishes against troops
- Indians had a triumph in December 1866, when Oglala Sioux, under Red Cloud, wiped out 82 soldiers under Captain Fetterman
- In 1867, the government changed its concentration policy to confining Plains Indians to two small reservations in Black Hills and other in Oklahoma
- Many Indians refused to abide and became destructive
- Indian leadership was poor but made superb guerrillas as they expertly led pursuers into ambushes
- Had Indians been guaranteed reasonable amount of land and adequate subsidies they might have accepted the situation
- Americans displayed lack of talent for administration
- The Department of Interior systematically cheated the Indians
- Indian Ring in Department typically stole funds and supplies intended for reservation Indians
- Paleontologist Othniel Marsh, wishing to dig for fossils on Sioux reservation, asked for permission of Indians. Red Cloud agreed if he sent samples of inadequate food the government was supplying. Marsh, appalled, sent list of charges against the agents
- General Sheridan, in command of Indian country, was no lover of Indians but he understood why they behaved as they did
- Grant wished to place reservations under army control, but Indians opposed
- In 1869, Congress created a nonpolitical Board of Indian commissioners to oversee Indian affairs, but was not effective
- In 1874, gold was discovered in Black Hills Indian reservation, as miners invaded area and the Sioux went on the warpath
- As they concentrated in region of Bighorn River, there columns of troops arrived against them
- Commander of one, General Terry, sent a Cavalry under Colonel Custer with orders to locate Indians camp & block escape
- Custer decided to attack directly with tiny force, underestimated number of Indians
- At Little Bighorn, he found himself surrounded by 2500 Sioux under Rain in the Face, Crazy Horse, and Sitting Bull. Custer and all his men died, as battle became "Custer's Last Stand"
- Later, short of rations and soldiers, made them surrender and return to reservation

The Destruction of Tribal Life

- Fighting slackened due to building of railroads and destruction of buffalo, as slaughter began
- Railroads made Army more efficient force and supplies and troops could be moved easily
- Lines also decimated buffalo by running excursion trains for hunters
- Disappearance of bison left Plains Indians starving, homeless, and purposeless
- By 1887, tribes of mountains and deserts also gave up fight
- The Nez Perce, led by Chief Joseph, outwitted federal troops in a campaign until their surrender in October 1877. They settled on bottoms of Indian Territory in Oklahoma
- Last Indians to abandon battle were the Apaches, who yielded on capture of their leader, Geronimo
- Large numbers of disinterested people, believed only practical way to solve Indian problem was to persuade Indians to abandon culture and live on family farms to become civilized
- The Dawes Severalty Act of 1887 split tribal lands into individual allotments & land could not be disposed of for 25 years. Funds were appropriated for education & training to adopt habits of civilized life to be granted U.S. citizenship
- Sponsors of Act thought they were effecting a fine reform
- Law was statement of policy rather than set of specific rules
- Dawes Act had disastrous results in long run
- White men tricked many Indians into leasing their allotments for pittance and authorities often taxed Indian lands at excessive rates
- In 1934, after much of the land had passed into white hands, government returned to policy of encouraging tribal ownership of lands

The Lure of Gold and Silver in the West

- Natural resources of nation exploited
- Americans regarded West as limitless treasure to be grasped as rapidly as possible
- Thousands of gold-crazed prospectors fanned out through Rockies, Fraser River country of British Columbia, Tuscan, Sierras, and Great Plains
- Any strike called for desire for sudden wealth and promoted a flock to the site

- Towns sprang up overnight but then expectations faded due to high prices, low yields, hardship, violence, and deception
- Booms collapsed and towns died
- Areas of Fraser River, Pikes Peak, and Nevada, where Comstock Lode yielded largest amount of ores, were sites of attraction
- Miners raced to Idaho panhandle
- There was a rush to Snake River valley and then one in 1863 to Montana
- Black Hills in Sioux lands inundated in 1874 to 1876
- Miners adopted the get-rich-quick philosophy, willingly enduring privations and laboring hard, never thinking about future generations
- Mining towns attracted every kind of shady character and produced gambling dens, dance halls, saloons, and brothels
- Law enforcement was constant problem
- During President Grants administration, Virginia City was at peak of prosperity, producing \$12 million a year in ore
- In 1873, after discovery of the Big bonanza, a rich ore more than 50 ft thick, future of Virginia boundless
- Finds in Black Hills district led to growth of Deadwood
- West continued to yield much gold and silver, but big corporations produced nearly all of it
- Stockholders of large corporations made off with share of wealth not the prospectors who made the discovery
- Mining of gold and silver not much different from mining of coal and iron, which also needed large capital investments
- Though marked by violence, fraud, greed, and lost hopes, the gold rushes had valuable results
- It produced the new metal itself, which bolstered financial position of U.S., needed goods to Europe were paid for, gold and silver cause increased interest in the West, and a new literature appeared, describing mining camps and life of prospectors. One example is Mark Twain's *Roughing It*
- Each strike brought permanent settlers, farmers, cattlemen, storekeepers, teamsters, lawyers, and ministers
- Trails helped to support the towns
- In every mining town, schools, churches, and newspapers sprang up
- Mines also sped up political organization of West
- Colorado, Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, and Montana became territories through 1861 to 1864
- Framework for future development was early established

Big Business and the Land Bonanza

- It was presumed that the Homestead Act of 1862 had ended speculator and the large landholder and that the West would be dotted with 160-acre family farms
- Most landless Americans were too poor and could not afford all the supplies needed for a farm
- Industrial workers had neither the skills nor inclination to become farmers
- Speculators often managed to obtain large tracts
- 160 acres were not enough to raise livestock or use for agriculture
- The Timber Culture Act of 1873 permitted individuals to claim an additional 160 acres if they agreed to plant ¼ of it in trees within 10 years, which did prove helpful to some.
- Private interests gobbled up and destroyed many of great forests of the Rockies and Sierras
- Timber and Stone Act of 1878 allowed anyone to acquire ¼ section of forest land for \$2.50 an acre if unfit for civilization, in which lumber companies hired dummy entry-men to obtain land
- Too many people were eager to exploit nations land for own profit
- After Civil War, Congress reserved 47.7 million acres of public land in South for homesteaders but this policy was reversed and land thrown open
- Frontier farmers found soil rich but climate made agriculture difficult. Blizzards, floods, grasshopper plagues, and fires caused problems along with droughts and searing summers
- Immensity of land, farm machinery and rail connections encouraged corporation controlled "bonanza" farms. One example including Liver Dalrymple in Dakota Territory which cultivated wheat
- Bonanza farmers could buy supplies wholesale and obtain concessions from railroads
- Most bonanza farms failed in dry years of late 1880s
- Those farmers who diversified their crops were better off
- The region became the breadbasket of America after the CW, producing wheat & other cereal crops, along with beef and pork

Western Railroad Building

- Further exploitation of land resources resulted from subsidizing western railroads
- Homesteaders always lost to railroads

- Development of western railroads was essential for farmers, miners, and cattle ranchers
- Unless government was willing to build lines itself, some system of subsidy was essential
- Grants were a sensible way of financing construction, which avoided direct outlays of public funds
- Federal land grants to railroads began in 1850 to the Illinois Central
- Land went to aid the construction of the Union Pacific-Central Pacific line, the Atchison, Southern Pacific, & Northern Pacific
- Pacific Railway Act of 1862 established pattern for the grants. Gave builders/railroads 5 square miles of public land on each side of right-of-way for each mile of track laid. Land allotted in alternate sections, forming a checkerboard pattern
- It was presumed that this benefited entire nation since half of land remained with public
- Lands were not opened to homesteaders
- President Cleveland put a stop to restriction of homesteaders living on indemnity lands in 1887
- Land-grant lines encouraged the growth of West and provided cheap transportation
- Operators tended to be corrupt with the money obtained from land grants
- Central Pacific in 1860s was controlled by 4 businessmen
- The Central Pacific, who employed Civil War veterans and Irish immigrants, and Union Pacific, who employed Chinese immigrants, were given loans in form of government bonds along with grants
- The Central Pacific construction, led by Crocker and being built in the Sierras, was being pushed with speed
- Efforts paid off as mountains conquered and meeting of rails at Promontory, Utah on May 10, 1869 took place
- The wasteful way in which Central Pacific build hurt road severely, being ill constructed and burdened with debt
- Only transcontinental railroad built without grants was the Great Northern, led by James Hill and the only one to survive the depression of 1890s

The Cattle Kingdom

- Cattlemen and sheep raisers dominated huge areas of High Plains, making millions as they exploited the acres of its grass
- Texas longhorn far from ideal cattle and hard to capture, but they existed in Texas by the millions
- Industrial growth in East caused increase in demand for food
- Railroad network made it possible to move cattle cheaply
- Anyone could drive cattle across unoccupied and federally owned land without paying a fee
- In 1866, number of Texans drove herds northward toward Missouri and Charles Goodnight and Oliver Loving drove a herd in a great arc west to Colorado
- Drovers, inspired by Joseph McCoy and others, led herds north by the Chisholm trail to Kansas Pacific line at Abilene and earned excellent profits
- Cattle sold to ranchers, feedlot operators, and eastern meatpackers
- Produced the American cowboy, which life consisted of endless hours on trail surrounded by beasts. They were mixed lot with Mexican vaqueros and African Americans, along with local Texans, veterans, miners, and others. They had a life of solitude but were strong, silent, and courageous. Few grew rich
- Major cattle towns like Abilene and Wichita had saloons, gambling dens, and dance houses
- Violence was common but the shooting up of cattle towns was fictitious and the police force was well organized

Open-Range Ranching

- Cattlemen discovered Texas stock could survive winters of Plains
- They introduced pedigreed Hereford bulls
- Grasses offered ranchers great value
- Open-range ranching required ownership of no more than a few acres along watercourse
- Without access to water, it was impossible to pasture stock on range
- Cowhands took out homestead claims along watercourses in region and expanded the area the rancher dominated
- Group of ranchers acted together
- Fortunes could be made as demand for meat was rising and transportation became cheap
- Capitalists from East and Europe poured funds into business
- Large outfits such as Nebraska Land and Cattle Company, controlled by British investors, and Union Cattle Company of Wyoming dominated the business, just as they had over mines
- At first, ranchers did not reduce public resources
- Major John Wesley Powell, in his *Report on the Lands of the Arid Region of the U.S.* (1879), suggested that western lands be divided into irrigable lands, timberlands, and Pasturage lands. On pasturage lands were to be a certain amount of acres and units were to be organized into districts in which ranchers had right to make own regulations

Barbed-Wire Warfare

- Congress's refusal to change land laws encouraged fraud
- Desert Land Act in 1877 allowed anyone to obtain 640 acres in arid states for \$1.25 an acre if owner irrigated part of it
- 95% of claims of land were said to be fraudulent
- Overcrowding became a problem that led to killings
- Ranchers banded together in associations to deal with overcrowding, quarantine regulations, water rights, and thievery
- Although associations devised effective rules, functions would be better in form of the government
- To keep other ranchers' cattle separated into sections, they began to fence huge areas
- Joseph F. Glidden, a farmer, invented barbed wire in 1874
- Miles of new fencing had been strung across Plains, across roads and around communities
- "Barbed-wire wars" resulted, which put rancher against rancher, and cattleman against sheep men
- Associations tried to punish anyone who cut wire
- Barbed wire destroyed the cattlemen's own way of doing business and prevented the cattle of free movement
- Drifting piled up against wire and died by thousands during winter
- Boom times ending as overproduction drove down prices of beef, expenses on rise, and range overgrazed
- Dry summer of 1886 left stock in poor condition
- As blizzards raged and temperatures plummeted during winter that year, 80 to 90 percent of cattle died
- This left the companies bankrupt and independent operators became sold out
- Industry now on smaller and more efficient scale
- Fencing enclosed land that ranchers actually owned
- By late 1880s bonanza days of West over
- The furs, metals, forests, cattle, and grass had been snatched up by first comers
- Big companies taking over all West's resources
- Conquest of frontier was appealing evasion as it transformed harmful actions & policies of nation into expression of human progress
- Civilization changing as nation becoming more powerful, richer, and larger
- East was increasingly dominating economy of entire nation
- U.S. not producing for Great Britain and Germany
- Value of American manufactured products rose from 1.8 billion in 1859 to 13 billion in 1899
- Growth not confined to Northeast
- Economy based on grain and lumber became a mainly urban-centered industrial economy in Wisconsin

Essentials of Industrial Growth

- Manufacturing flourished due to discovery of new natural resources which attracted a population
- Growth added to national market, and protective tariffs shielded market from competition
- Dominant spirit encouraged progress but also produced Robber Barons
- Search for wealth led to corrupt business practices such as stock manipulation, bribery, and cutthroat competition, along with monopolies
- European immigrants provided labor needed by expanding industry
- For many, American was a land of opportunity, but emigrating meant a struggle for survival
- It was a period of rapid advance in science, and technicians created new machines, processes, and power sources that increased productivity
- Many farm families displaced from homes/made farmers dependent on distant markets & economic forces they could not control
- Packaged cereal appeared on American breakfast table
- Commercial canning of food was spurred by automatic line canning factory
- Bonsack cigarette-rolling machine created new industry
- George Eastman created mass-produced, roll photographic film and efficient Kodak camera
- The typewriter was perfected by Remington company in 1880s
- Inventions had mixed blessings

Railroads: The First Big Business

- Railroads the most significant element in economic development. Railroad executives the most powerful in the country
- By 1900, nation had 193,000 miles of track
- Emphasis put on organizing integrated systems after 1865
- Lines had high fixed costs: taxes, interest, maintenance, and salaries

- Railroads had to carry as much traffic to earn profits so they spread out feeder lines to draw business to main lines
- In 1867, the New York Central passed into hands of Cornelius Vanderbilt, who already controlled lines running from Albany to New York City. He merged the properties
- In 1873, he integrated Lake Shore and Michigan Southern into empire
- Thomas Scott was fusing roads. By 1869, the Erie extended from New York to Cleveland, Cincinnati, and St. Louis. In 1874, Baltimore and Ohio rail one also obtained access to Chicago
- Transcontinental's were trunk lines from the start, as builders needed connection to eastern markets
- Dominant system builder of Southwest was Jay Gould, who was soft-spoken but ruthless and aggressive
- Gould took over Kansas Pacific and consolidated it with Union Pacific and Missouri Pacific
- Although he wanted profit, his grasp of importance of integration was sound
- Southern trunk lines such as Louisville and Atlantic Coast Line, was controlled by northern capitalists
- Trunk lines made it important to standardize many of their activities as well as other aspects of life
- Time zones developed in 1883 by railroads
- Standard track gauged established in 1886
- Standardized car coupling and braking mechanisms, signal systems, and accounting were essential to efficiency
- Lines sought to work out fixed rates for carrying different types of freight, charging more for valuables than for bulky products like coal
- Agreed to permit rate concessions to shippers
- Railroad management becoming a kind of profession with certain standard ways
- Railroads stimulated economy indirectly, by speeding up development and creating jobs along with technological advances
- To speed settlement of new regions, land-grant railroads sold land cheaply
- They offered reduced rates to those wishing to farm and set up bureaus of immigration
- In 1869, George Westinghouse invented the air brake, which increased size of trains and their speed
- Sleeping car invented in 1864 by George Pullman
- To pull heavier trains, a call for a stronger and more durable rail was wanted, which led to steel
- Close tie developed between railroads and telegraph network
- Roads allowed Western Union to string wires along their rights-of-way, and transported without charge, in return for free telegraphic service

Iron, Oil, and Electricity

- Transformation of iron manufacturing affected the nation
- Big change came in development of ways to mass-produce steel
- Steel, which combines hardness of cast iron with toughness of wrought iron, served for every purpose, from bridges, buildings, railroad tracks, machine tools, boiler plates, to barbed wire
- Steel could not be used for bulky products until invention of Bessemer process in 1850s, perfected by Henry Bessemer along with William Kelly
- Bessemer process and open-hearth method introduced commercially in 1860s
- The huge supplies of iron ore in the U.S. and coal made the growth of steel possible
- Pittsburgh became the iron and steel capital of the country
- Petroleum industry expanded more than iron and steel
- Edwin Drake drilled the 1st successful well in Pennsylvania in 1859
- Technological advances came rapidly as refiners learned to "crack" petroleum and introduced gasoline, an anesthetic, coolant for refrigerators, and new waxes
- There was a great increase in crude oil which drove prices down
- Larger plants using expensive machinery and employing skilled technicians became more important
- The telephone and electric light business was introduced
- Alexander Bell invented the telephone in 1876 and by 1900 there were almost 800,000 telephones in country
- American Telephone and Telegraph Company dominated the business
- At Menlo Park, Thomas Edison built the prototype of modern research laboratory where he took out more than 1000 patents, involving the phonograph, motion-picture projector, storage battery, and mimeograph
- Edison's most important achievement was the electric light bulb
- He would soon be able to illuminate entire towns
- In 1882, his Edison Illuminating Company opened a power station in New York City
- Central stations sprung up everywhere
- Substitution of electric for steam power in factories was liberating
- Small, safe electric motors replaces dangerous mazes of belts and wheels
- By early twentieth century, almost 6 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity were being produced annually

Competition and Monopoly: The Railroads

- Deflation affected agricultural goods as well as manufactures, which lasted until 1896 or 1897
- Falling prices kept a steady pressure on profit margins and led to increased production and intense competition
- Competition caused sided effects that injured economy and society
- Railroad managers found it impossible to enforce rate schedules and maintain regional associations
- Competition cut deep into railroad profits, causing lines to seek increase in volume and reduced rates on selective basis
- Railroads gave rebates to large shippers which let industries dominated their business
- Railroad officials disliked rebating but found no way to avoid it
- Railroads also issued passes to favored shippers, built sidings at plants of importance without charge, and gave freely of landholdings
- To make up for losses forced on them by competition, railroads charged higher rates at way points along tracks where no competition existed
- It cost more to ship a product a short distance than a longer one
- Although cheap transportation stimulated the economy, few people benefited from cutthroat competition
- Small shippers suffered and discrimination speeded the concentration of industry in large corporations
- Worst sufferers were the roads themselves because they had a loss of revenue resulting from rate cutting and inflated debts
- Samuel Tilden, the Democratic presidential candidate named the "the Great Forecloser" because he reorganized bankrupt railroads
- Major roads responded by building or buying lines to create interregional systems, but their cost led to more bankruptcies
- Representatives of bankers consistently opposed rate wars, rebating, and other practices
- Control of railroad network became centralized

Competition and Monopoly: Steel

- Iron and steel industry was also intensely competitive
- Kingpin of industry was Andrew Carnegie who decided to specialize in iron business
- In 1875, Carnegie built the J. Edgar Thomson Steel Works, employing chemists and other specialists
- He was a merciless competitor and sold rails by paying commissions to railroad agents
- By 1890 Carnegie Steel Company dominated industry
- Makers of finished steel products became alarmed and considered pooling their resources and making steel themselves as Carnegie threatened to manufacture the finished goods
- Carnegie believed that great wealth entailed social responsibilities
- J.P. Morgan soon bought him out and in 1901 Morgan put together U.S. Steel, the world's first billion dollar corporation. Combination included Carnegies Federal Steel Company, American Steel & Wire Company, and National Tube company
- U.S. steel capitalized at 1.4 billion

Competition and Monopoly: Oil

- Fierce competition leading to combination and monopoly was shown in petroleum industry
- Production of crude oil fluctuated constantly without regard for need
- By 1870s, chief oil-refining centers were Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and New York City
- The Standard Oil Company of Cleveland was founded by John D. Rockefeller in 1870
- He exploited technical advancements and employed fair means and foul to persuade competitors to sell or join
- By 1879, he controlled 90% of nations oil refining
- Associates of Rockefeller the most efficient
- Standard Oil obtained rebates and drawbacks, and cut prices locally to force small business to sell
- Bribery a Standard practice
- Although bold and daring, Rockefeller was too orderly and enjoyed battles
- Rockefeller competed ruthlessly not to crush others but to persuade them to join with him
- He established a new type of organization, the trust. He took over dozens of companies scattered across the country, but difficulties arose
- Stock of Standard of Ohio & others, was turned over to nine trustees who were empowered to exercise supervision of properties
- In exchange, stockholders received trust certificates
- Device brought order and competition almost disappeared

- Standard Oil Trust not a corporation
- The trust, which formerly signified a fiduciary arrangement for protection of interest of individuals incompetent or unwilling to guard them themselves, became monopoly
- A monopoly's function was to centralized management in interest of efficiency

Competition and Monopoly: Retailing and Utilities

- Utilities such as telephone and electric lighting industries formed monopolies
- Since industries depended on patents, Bell & Edison had to fight court battles with rivals seeking to infringe on their rights
- Competition in electric lighting raged for years among Edison, Westinghouse, & the Thomson-Houston Electric Company
- In 1892, Edison and Thomson-Houston companies merged forming General Electric
- Competition lead to dominance by a few companies
- Life insurance expanded, being stimulated by development of the group policy, the "tontine," by Henry Hyde
- Agents gave rebates and companies stole crack agents from rivals and raided new territories
- By 1900, three giants dominated the industry of life insurance
- In retailing, period saw growth of urban department stores
- Alexander Stewart, John Wanamaker, and Marshall Field built emporiums
- These department stores advertised heavily and high volume made for large profits

American Ambivalence to Big Business

- Expansion of industry and concentration into fewer hands changed way people felt about role of government in economic and social affairs
- Only regulations enforced by government was banking laws, tariffs, internal-improvements, & granting land to railroads
- Such laws were intended to release human energy and increase freedom
- Tariffs stimulated industry and created new jobs, railroad grants opened up new regions for development
- Growth of industry and finance organizations and increasing complexity of economic relations frightened people but made them greedy for more
- James Bryce described changes in *The American Commonwealth* in 1888
- Generally, monopolists did not raise prices unreasonably and prices tended to fall until 1890s when consumer's millennium arrived
- There was fear that monopolists were destroying economic opportunity and threatening democratic institutions
- As observers pondered the wrong and evils of money-pilling tendency of country, business leaders rose their own defense
- Carnegie insisted that rich must use their money which would produce the most beneficial results for the community
- Many clergymen denounced unrestrained competition
- New class of professional economists tended to repudiate laissez-faire

Reformers: George, Bellamy, Lloyd

- Henry George, a journalist published *Progress and Poverty*, an attack on misdistribution of wealth in the U.S. in 1879. He argued that labor was the true and only source of capital. He proposed a property tax that would confiscate unearned money by land
- This single tax, which was never adopted, would bring in much money to allow government to establish schools, museums, theaters, and other services
- Edward Bellamy wrote a utopian novel, called *Looking Backward, 200-1887*. It described an America that was completely socialized, all economic activity planned. He said the ideal socialist state would arrive without revolution or violence
- Henry Demarest Lloyd attacked monopoly and wrote *Wealth Against Commonwealth* in 1894 to denunciate Standard Oil Company by preparing masses of facts and examples of their evildoing. Lloyd also attacked the application of Darwin's concept of survival of fittest to economic and social affairs and condemned laissez-faire policies
- Popularity of these books indicated that monopoly worried many
- None of the readers seriously considered trying to apply ideas

Reformers: The Marxists

- In 1877, a Marxist Socialist Labor party was founded
- First attempt to explain Marx's ideas was Laurence Granlund's *The Cooperative Commonwealth* in 1884
- Granlund claimed capitalism contained seeds of its own destruction and states should own all means of production

- Competition was established anarchy, middlemen were parasites, and speculators were vampires
- Leading voice of Socialist Labor Party was Daniel De Leon, an editor, who was a doctrinaire revolutionary
- He excoriated American labor unions in *The People*, insisting workers could improve lot only by adopting socialism and joining Labor party, but paid little attention to practical needs of working people

The Government Reacts to Big Business: Railroad Regulation

- Strict regulations of railroads due to agitation by the National Grange of Patrons of Husbandry
- The Grange, founded in 1867, by Oliver Kelley, was created to provide social and cultural benefits for isolated rural communities
- As Grangers won control of state legislatures, they established maximum rates and outlawed discrimination, along with commission to enforce laws
- Railroads protested, insisting they were deprived of property without due process of law
- In *Munn v. Illinois* (1877), a case involving grain elevator whose owner refused to comply with state warehouse act, the Supreme Court upheld constitutionality of kind of act. Any business that served public, was subject to state control
- Regulation of railroads by states inefficient
- In *Wabash* case, Court declared an Illinois regulation outlawing long-and-short-haul evil unconstitutional. Illinois could not regulate interstate shipments
- Congress passed the Interstate Commerce Act in 1887, stating that all charges made by railroads shall be reasonable and just. It also declared rebates, drawbacks, and other practices unlawful. Railroads required publishing schedules of rates. The Act also established an Interstate Commerce Commission, the first federal regulatory board, to supervise railroad affairs
- Act not radical nor effective, and contradicted itself but did challenge laissez-faire
- Commission could not fix rates, only bring roads to court

The Government Reacts to Big Business: The Sherman Antitrust Act

- The first antitrust laws originated in southern and western states with little industry
- Federal action came in 1890 with passage of Sherman Antitrust Act which declared any combination in form of trust or otherwise was in restraint of trade or commerce among states and foreign nations. If someone formed a combination, they were fined and sent to jail
- Act supposed to restore competition but was rather loosely worded as it was to calm public clamor for action instead of breaking combinations
- In *United States v. E. C. Knight Company* in 1895, the Court held that the American Sugar Refining Company had not violated the law by taking over competitors and stated that Trust was not restraining trade
- In several cases in 1898 and 1899, the Court ruled that agreements to fix prices or divide markets did violate Sherman Act, which resulted in mergers

The Labor Union Movement

- At time of Civil War only small percentage of workforce was organized and belonged to unions
- The Union was the workers response to the big corporation: a combination designed to eliminate competition for jobs and to provide efficient organization for labor
- There was a growth of national craft unions after 1865 and the National Labor Union was founded in 1866
- Most of their leaders were visionaries who were out of touch with practical needs, while opposing wage system and strikes. Their main objective was worker-owned cooperatives
- The Knights of Labor was founded in 1869 by group headed by Uriah Stephens, who was a reformer of wide interests
- Terence Powderly was Stephens successor
- They were like Jacksonians, and supported political objectives that had no direct connection with working conditions, currency reform, and curbing of land speculation
- By pooling their resources, they could advance up economic ladder and enter capitalist class
- Labor should own and operate mines, factories, and railroads
- They developed a concept closely resembling modern industrial unionism
- They welcomed blacks, women, and immigrants, along with accepting unskilled workers and artisans
- The Knights demanded 8-hour day and later, higher pay
- Between 1882 and 1886, successful strikes against western railroads, brought recruits by thousands, but its national leadership was unable to control local groups
- Public was alienated by acts of violence and intimidation

- When a striker was killed in fracas at McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, anarchists called a protest meeting at Haymarket Square. Police intervened & someone hurled a bomb into their ranks, killing 7 policemen and others injured

The American Federation of Labor

- As people began to associate the Knights with violence and radicalism after their supposed doing at Haymarket Square, their membership declined
- Knights place taken by the American Federation of Labor (AFL), a combination of national craft unions
- Its leaders, Adolph Strasser and Samuel Gompers, were originally interested in utopian social reforms
- They soon concentrated on organizing skilled workers and fighting for “bread-and-butter” issues such as higher wages and shorter hours
- Unions, like the AFL, were a kind of club as well as means of defending and advancing their members material interests
- Their chief weapon was the strike
- Federation worked for 8-hour days, employers liability, and mine-safety laws, but avoided direct involvement in politics
- In 1901, the AFL membership passed million mark

Labor Militancy Rebuffed

- The stress of the AFL on the strike reflected the increasing militancy of labor
- Workers felt threatened from all sides: growing size and power of employers; substitution of machines for human skills; invasion of foreign workers willing to accept substandard wages
- The employer behaved like a tyrant, by discharging them when they organized unions, hired scabs to replace strikers, and failed to provide protection of against injury
- Deflation, technological change, and competition kept industrialists under pressure
- When labor was scarce, employers resisted demands for higher wages by arguing that price of labor was controlled by productivity; when it was plentiful, they justified reducing wages by referring to law of supply and demand
- In 1877, a great railroad strike convulsed the nation when violence broke out on the Baltimore and Ohio system in response to wage cut. President Hayes sent troops to restore order
- In 1892, a violent strike broke out among silver miners at Coeur d’Alene, Idaho and another when strikers attacked guards brought to Carnegie’s Homestead steel plant. This was a struggle between capital and labor in steel industry
- A walkout of members of Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, destroyed unionisms as effective force in steel industry and set back progress all over country
- Activities of radicals turned public against steelworkers
- Boss of the Homestead was Henry Frick, a foe of unions, determined to teach employees a lesson. He decided to bring in strikebreakers and employed Pinkerton detectives
- Most important strike was when workers at George Pullman’s Palace Car factor walked out in protest against wage cuts. Some workers belonged to American Railway Union, headed by Eugene Debs. Union refused to handle trains with Pullman cars after many weeks. Owners refused to run trains unless made up of full complement cars. Resulting railroad strike tied up trunk lines. Cleveland agreed to send troops to preserve order. When Debs defied to end walkout, he was jailed & strike was broken

Whither America, Whither Democracy?

- More of nations wealth and power in fewer hands and industries dominated were mostly by bankers
- Centralization increased efficiency, while public benefited from productive efficiency of new empires, and their living standards rose
- Trend toward gigantism raised doubts as ownership was in fewer hands and those who possessed huge fortunes could influence government
- Crushing of Pullman strike demonstrated power of courts to break strikes & courts seemed only concerned with protecting the powerful
- Federal government based its injunction of Pullman strike by the Sherman Antitrust Act, arguing that Union was combination in restraint of trade

American Society in the Industrial Age

- Industrialization that followed Civil War affected every aspect of American life
- New machines, improvements in transportation and communication, and corporations made deep impressions on shape and character of society
- Growth of cities and influx of immigrants had effects on world they inhabited

Middle-Class Life

- Middle-class culture took best aspects of romanticism—the enshrinement of human potential, restless striving for personal betterment, zest for competition, excitement & tempered them with passion for self-control regularity
- American society and culture underwent process of incorporation, as predominant form of business seeped into American consciousness
- Middle-class family lost some of its moral fervor and gained a new substantiality
- Families were smaller. Family relations were stiff.
- There was a commercial explosion in the dissemination of contraceptive devices and practice of abortion
- Children were carefully supervised but interference with love life of children for any materialistic or social reason was seen as improper
- Women remained in home and men worked away from home
- Members of diffused groups of shopkeepers, manufacturers, craftsmen, & farmers lived in varying degrees of comfort
- About a quarter of all urban families employed at least one servant
- Family life defined in terms of tangible goods: clothes, furniture, books, lamps, and all manner of bibelots, naming it the “culture of consumption”

Skilled and Unskilled Workers

- Wage earners felt full force of industrial tide, beneficial and unfortunate
- Number of workers manufacturing and mining multiplied
- More efficient methods of production enabled them to increase output, rising standard of living
- Working day was shortening by 1880s
- Skilled industrial workers were well off in most cases, but unskilled laborers could not earn enough to maintain a family decently
- Industrialization created more problems for workers
- Skilled workers improved positions relatively
- Mechanization undermined artisans and bargaining power
- Machines more than workers controlled pace of work and its duration
- Pace of work and anger involved in working with machinery increased
- Personal contact between employer and hired hand tended to disappear and became more businesslike
- Blue-collar workers rose in industrial hierarchy but bigness made it difficult to rise from ranks of labor
- Industrialization tended to accentuate swings of business cycle as depression made unemployment a problem

Working Women

- Women supplied part of industrial working force but now more were working outside homes
- In all fields, women were paid substantially lower wages than men
- Women found many new types of work as they were majority of salespersons and cashiers in department stores
- Because of the Cult of True Womanhood, managers considered women more polite, easier to control, and more honest
- Educated, middle-class women also dominated nursing, as they were considered to have the needed characteristics of selflessness, cleanliness, kindness, and sensitivity
- Women did replace men as teachers in most grade schools as well as clerks, secretaries, and operators in government departments and business offices
- Men with knowledge that these positions required, had better opportunities
- Department store clerks and typewriters earned more money than unskilled factory workers, and conditions were more pleasant
- Opportunities for promotion for women rare and posts in fields remained in hands of men

Farmers

- Independent farmers and agricultural way of life were being left behind in race for wealth and status

- Number of farmers and volume of production rose, but place in economy was declining
- Industry was expanding far faster and population passing the countryside
- Farmers suffered a decline in status as they seemed provincial and behind the times
- This angered farmers and waves of radicalism swept agricultural regions, giving rise to demands for social and economic opportunities that broke down rural laissez-fair prejudices
- Farmers not at all affected by economic developments in same way
- There was a decline in prices and those in newly settled areas were worse off
- The Granger movement led to many cooperative experiment sin marketing of farm products and in purchases
- Except as a social organization, the Grange had no importance in eastern states, where urban markets made farmers prosperous
- By late 1880s farmers in old Middle West also became better established when depression hit and they were able to weather bad times by taking advantage of lower transportation costs, better farm machinery, and new fertilizers to increase output and change production goods
- On agricultural frontier from Texas to Dakotas, and throw sates of old Confederacy, famers less fortunate
- The crop-lien system in south kept many in penury, while Plains life was succession of hardships
- Frontier families had to work hard and endure hazards along with isolation
- All burdens magnified on prairies and High Plains, as life was hard for farm women who had to perform farm chores

Working-Class Family Life

- Standard of living of people was greatly different among same group
- Differences related to health, intelligence, wife's ability, degree of values, luck, and spending of money
- Family incomes varied greatly among workers who received similar wages
- 2 families were admirable, probably similar in social attitudes and political loyalties but with different standards of living

Working-Class Attitudes

- Reports of the working people's feelings about matters concerning their jobs revealed a wide spectrum of opinion
- There was a great deal of dissatisfaction among industrial workers
- There was a feeling of bitterness and distrust of employers
- Causes of discontent included poverty and rising aspirations
- Workers confused about their destiny
- Although rich were growing richer and more people were growing rich, ordinary workers were better off too
- Gap between rich and ordinary was widening

Working Your Way Up

- Americans believed their society offered great opportunities for individual advancement
- There was a considerable mobility in urban areas
- The way to move up in the world was to move on
- Mobility was accompanied by some economic and social improvement, as manual laborers rose to middle-class status or moved into a skilled job
- Progress was result of economic growth of nation and energy and ambition of people
- Public education also gave a boost to mobility
- In 1860s, half of children getting formal education, but not at any one time, while sessions were short & teachers were not well trained
- Steady growth and improvement took place thereafter
- Attendance in public schools increased and public expenditures for education quadrupled
- Industrialization created demands for vocational and technical training
- Secondary education still assumed to be only for those with special abilities and the rich
- Fewer than 300,000 of 14.3 million children attending public and private schools had progressed beyond 8th grade
- In 1880, Calvin Woodward opened a Manual Training School in St Louis and soon more schools were offering courses in carpentry, metalwork, sewing, and other crafts.
- Because manual training attracted industrialists, organized labor suspicious
- By 1910, the AFL lobbying with National Association of Manufacturers for more trade schools
- Education helped young people to rise, but rags to real riches was uncommon
- Business leaders grew up in well-to-do middle-class families, better educated, and members of Protestant church
- Workers continued to subscribe to such middle-class values as hard work and thrift for hope

The “New” Immigration

- Industrial expansion increased need for labor which stimulated immigration
- The launching of the English liner Great Ester opened a new era in transatlantic travel
- Although immigrants traveled in steerage, crossing became less hazardous and speedy with the steamship
- Competition drove down costs and advertising stimulated traffic
- Improvements in transportation produced changes in economies of European countries
- Cheap wheat from other countries poured into Europe bringing disaster to farmers in Europe
- Spreading industrial revolution and farm machinery led to collapse of peasant economy of central and south Europe, which meant loss of self-sufficiency, fragmentation of landholdings, and unemployment
- Political & religious persecutions pushed others into migration, but main reason remained the desire for economic betterment
- Industry absorbed increasing number of newcomers
- Many entered the country by way of NYC
- Before 1882, when, in addition to Chinese, criminals, and persons mentally defective or liable to become public charges were excluded from entry, it was unrestricted
- Medical inspection was perfunctory
- Private agencies served as link between new arrivals and employers looking for labor
- Until Foran Act of 1885 outlawed practice, few companies brought in skilled workers under contract, advancing their passage money and collecting installments from paychecks
- Nationality groups organized immigrant banks that recruited labor, arranged transportation, housed newcomers, & found them jobs
- The *padrone* system of Italians and Greeks was typical, as the *padrone*, someone who agreed to supply gangs of unskilled workers to companies for lump sum, signed on immigrants unfamiliar with American wage levels
- Effects of industrialization in Europe caused shift in sources of immigration from northern and western to southern and eastern sections

New Immigrants Face New Nativism

- The “new” immigrants, like “old” Irish of 1840s were mostly peasants
- Americans thought them harder to assimilate
- Italian immigrants made hard and willing workers, but were not much concerned with being part of community
- There were some “birds of passage,” but immigrant who saved in order to bring family more typical
- Cultural differences among immigrants were often large and had effects on relations with Americans and other immigrants
- Certain groups found it more difficult to adjust because of their different traditions
- German American and Irish American Catholics had different attitudes that caused them to clash over matters of Catholic University
- There were clashes among Catholic, Protestant German Americans, and Greek American groups
- Many “older” Americans concluded that new immigrants incapable of becoming good citizens and should be kept out
- During 1880s, social workers, economists, and church leaders, worried by poor immigrants, began to believe some restriction was needed
- Charitable organizations complained their resources were being exhausted by the needs
- Social Darwinists and those with pseudoscientific ideas about racial purity found immigration alarming
- They decided that peoples of southern and eastern Europe were racially inferior to Anglo—Saxon types
- Workers, fearing competition of people with low living standards, spoke out against immigrants
- Employers were not disturbed by influx but by late 1880s, many alarmed about radicalism of immigrants
- Nativism, which had been under the Know-Nothing party, now flared again
- Nativists disliked Catholics and other minority groups
- Largest nativist organization was American Protective Association, founded in 1887, which existed to resist Catholics
- Protestant majority treated immigrants as underlings, tried to keep out of jobs, & discouraged them from climbing ladder
- Neither labor leaders nor industrialists took broadly anti foreign position
- After Exclusion Act of 1882 and 1885 ban on importing contract labor, no more restrictions were applied until 20th century
- The Immigration Restriction League pushed for the literacy test for admission
- Literacy test bill passed both house in 1897, but President Cleveland vetoed it, saying it was unjustified

The Expanding City and Its Problems

- Many newcomers crowded into cities, aggravation problems of housing, public health, crime, and immorality

- Proportion of urban dwellers had been steadily increasing since 1820
- Population density is not necessarily related to existence of large cities
- The national transportation network made huge metropolises possible
- Expansion of industry had become chief cause of city growth
- Increasing proportion of urban population were immigrants
- Eastern cities developed many ethnic neighborhoods, in each of which immigrants of one nationality congregated
- Newcomers still wanted to maintain traditional culture
- They supported national churches and schools and newspapers in native languages flourished
- Although neighborhoods crowded, unhealthy, and crime-ridden, and many residents were poor, they were not ghettos in European sense, and was a place where one could fulfill their ambitions and hopes
- Many natives accused newcomers of resisting Americanization and blamed them for problems

Teeming Tenements

- Cities suffering from growing pains
- Sewer and water facilities frequently could not keep pace with needs, as drinking water became contaminated
- Fire protection became less and less adequate
- Garbage piled up on street, which were crumbled beneath the traffic
- People poured into cities faster than housing could be built
- Builders squeezed out light and air in order to wedge in a few additional units
- Substandard living quarters aggravated disease and disintegration of family life with mental anguish, crime, and juvenile delinquency
- NYC created a Metropolitan Health Board in 1866 and state tenement house law which regulated city housing
- A law in 1879 placed a limit on percentage of lot of space that could be covered by new construction and established minimal standards of plumbing and ventilation
- Despite efforts, many were still living in small sections being crowded
- Unhealthiness of tenements was notorious
- Number of prison inmates rose and homicide rate nearly tripled. Slum youths formed gangs
- Petty thievery, shoplifting, housebreaking, bank robbery, and murder became abundant
- Rich ignored conditions in poorer parts of town

The Cities Modernize

- As cities grew, practical forces operated to bring improvements
- In many communities public-spirited groups formed societies to plant trees, clean up areas, & develop recreational facilities
- Gradually basic facilities of urban living were improved
- Streets were paved, gaslights then incandescent lamps brightened cities making law enforcement easier, stimulating night life, and permitting factories to operate later
- Urban transportation underwent changes with the invention of the electric trolley car in 1880s which put end to horse car transportation
- Trolleys were cheaper and quieter
- The first practical electric trolley line was installed in Richmond, VA in 1887
- Lines soon radiated outward from city centers, bringing shoppers to business district
- Ownership of street railways quickly became centralized like all other enterprises
- Streetcars increased the radius of the walking city
- Population shifts resulted as better-off moved away from center, abandoning older neighborhoods
- Economic segregation speeded the growth of ghettos
- Streetcar companies further speeded suburban growth because they assured developers, bankers, builders, and middle-class buyers of efficient transport to center of town
- Advances in bridge design, notably by perfection of steel-cable suspension bridge by Roebling, aided to flow of populations
- High cost of urban real estate was somewhat beneficial in long run
- Architects started to build upward, stone and brick apartment houses replaced dumbbell tenements, and iron-skeleton construction arose while the words skyscraper and skyline entered the language
- The "White City," an evocation of structures, built for Chicago World's Fair of 1893 by Daniel H. Burnham led to national "city beautiful" movement which developed many parks
- Landscape architect Frederick Olmsted, designer of NY Central Park, was a leading figure in movement
- Efforts to relieve slum districts made little headway as more tenement houses that yielded only modest returns were built

Leisure Activities: More Fun and Games

- Cities became centers of artistic and intellectual life
- Saloons were common as workingmen had more free time
- Opposition to sports was evaporating and was replaced by realization that games were healthy occupations
- Bicycling became a fad
- Streetcar companies built picnic grounds and amusement parks at outer limits
- There was a development of spectator sports because of large population
- Horseracing & professional boxing are examples of these sports in which the rich played while the working-class gambled
- Three major team games, baseball, football, and basketball, developed in modern form in last quarter of century
- Organized play led to codification of rules and improvements in technique and strategy
- James Naismith invented the basketball in 1891
- Football evolved out of English rugby
- First intercollege football game occurred between Princeton and Rutgers in 1869
- Most of game's character was work of Walter Camp, athletic director and football coach of Yale
- Camp claimed amateur sports like football taught hard work, cooperation, and fair play
- Sports had little appeal to women at the time and few participated in athletics, only participating in croquet or tennis

Christianity's Conscience and the Social Gospel

- Modernization of cities was not solving social problems of slums
- Urban religious leaders began to take look at situation
- Churches lost influence in poorer sections
- Henry Ward Beecher attributed poverty to improvidence of laborers and declared unions the worst form of tyranny of Christendom
- Increasing proportion of districts were Catholics. Roman church devoted much effort to distributing alms, maintain homes for orphans/old people, & other welfare but church leaders seemed unconcerned with social causes of problem
- They committed to idea that sin and vice were personal, poverty an act of God
- Catholic hierarchy was neutral toward organized labor as they criticized capitalism and declared works were entitled to good wages, but actions were slow in coming
- Some earnest preachers worked directly to improve the poor of the city
- Dwight Moody, conducted a campaign to persuade slums to cast aside sinful ways
- Evangelists founded mission schools in slums and tried to provide spiritual and recreational facilities, along with the YMCA and Salvation Army
- However, evangelists paid little heed to cause of urban poverty/vice, believing faith in God would enable poor to transcend
- Protestant clergymen preached the "Social Gospel" which focused on improving living conditions rather than saving souls
- Social Gospelers advocated civil service reform, child labor legislation, regulation of big corporations, & heavy taxes on incomes
- Most influential preacher was Washington Gladden, who defended labor's right to organize & strike, & denounced idea that supply/demand should control wages. He also favored factory inspection laws & strict regulation of public utilities
- Reverend William Bliss, who founded the Society of Christian Socialists, and others advocated government unemployment relief programs, public housing and slum clearance projects
- Charles Sheldon's novel *In His Steps* in 1896 showed the reform and moral regeneration of city

The Settlement Houses

- Many grappled with slum problems by organizing settlement houses, which were community centers located in poor districts that provided guidance and services to all who would use them
- The settlement workers, who were idealistic, well-to-do young people, lived in the houses and were active in affairs
- Prototype of house was London's Toynbee Hall
- First American example was Neighborhood Guild, opened by Dr. Stanton Coit
- Most famous was Jane Addam's Hull House in Chicago (1889), Robert Woods South End House in Boston (1892), and Lillian Wald's Henry Street Settlement in NY (1893)
- Most important workers were women fresh from college as settlements provided outlet for their hopes and energies
- Settlement workers tried to interpret American ways to new immigrants and to create community spirit in order to teach

them the right way.

- They expected to benefit morally and intellectually by experiencing way of life different from own
- They agitated for tenement house laws, regulation of labor of women and children, and better schools
- They employed private resources to establish playgrounds along with libraries, classes, social clubs, and day-care centers
- They tried to place children of struggling families in foster homes
- Robert Woods organized clubs to get youngsters off the streets, established restaurant, acted as arbitrator in labor disputes, and lobbied for laws tightening franchises of public utility companies
- Jane Addams developed a cultural program that included music and art classes
- Hull House boasted a gymnasium, day nursery, and social clubs, also working to improve public services and for social legislation
- Critics considered houses devices to socialize unruly poor
- First Catholic-run settlement house was founded in 1898 in NY
- With all accomplishments, houses seemed to be fighting a losing battle
- The influx of many new immigrants made it difficult for houses to keep up
- The wealth and authority of the state must be used to keep order of the problem

Civilization and Its Discontents

- Majority of American people remained optimists and uncritical admirers of their civilization
- However, blacks, immigrants, & others who failed to share equitable in life, along with reformers found little to cheer about
- Giant monopolies flourished despite federal restrictions
- The slum spread its poison and the materially successful made a god of their success
- Human values seemed in grave danger of being crushed by forces by the great corporations
- Divorce rate and taste for luxury items increased
- Heart disease and mental illness were on the rise
- Voices of dissatisfied were rising
- It was by no means clear around 1900 that American people were really better off under new dispensation

Intellectual and Cultural Trends

- Industrialization altered the way Americans thought at same time that it transformed their ways of making a living
- Technological advances revolutionized the communication of ideas
- Materialism towards business also affected contemporary education and literature
- New ideas about how children should be educated and what they should be taught emerged
- Americans made significant contributions in hard sciences and soft social sciences
- A new literary flowering comparable to “renaissance” of 1840s and 1850s occurred in 1870s and 1880s

The Knowledge Revolution

- Improvements in education & needs of society cause a revolution in how knowledge was discovered, disseminated, and used
- The Chautauqua movement founded by John Vincent and Lewis Miller illustrates the desire for new information. They were in charge of Sunday schools and organized summer course for Sunday school teachers
- They later included instruction in literature, science, government, and economics
- By 1900 there were about 200 Chautauqua-type organizations
- In general, intellectual standards were low and moneymaking was its motivator
- The movement did however provide opportunities for many seeking stimulation and intellectual improvement
- Private donors, including Andrew Carnegie, contributed millions to private libraries
- New technology, like the web press, linotype machine, and machines to make paper out of wood made the newspaper an even more important means of sending information to the masses
- Telegraph and transoceanic cables brought similar transformation
- Population growth and better education created a larger demand for printed matter
- Advertising became important and soon newspapers and magazines became means of placing products before consumers
- Cheap, mass-circulation papers first appeared in 1830s but the first publisher to reach a massive audience was Joseph Pulitzer who made a first-rate paper of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* by devoting headlines to scandal, crime, society, and theater along with political cartoons, sports, comics, and pictures
- He attacked political corruption, monopoly, and slum problems in his paper *World*

- Pulitzer had originality, boldness, and knack of reaching masses without abandoning seriousness of purpose and integrity

Magazine Journalism

- By the turn of the century there were more than 5000 magazines
- Handful of periodicals were staid in tone and conservative in political caste
- The magazines contained articles on current affairs, with fiction and poetry, and historical and biographical studies
- Magazines directed at average citizen were of low quality.
- After 1885, vast changes began to take place as new magazines such as *Forum* and *Arena* emphasized hard hitting articles on controversial subjects
- Invention of cheap photoengraving was significance in success of magazines and crusaded for women's suffrage, conservation, and other reforms
- They found ways of interesting rich and poor, the cultivated and ignorant
- They utilized new printing technology to cut costs and drew heavily on advertising to make fortunes but sell magazines for 10 or 15 cents.

Colleges and Universities

- Aspirations of youth were rising, and more and more parents had financial means to fulfill them
- There was an alteration in their curricula and in atmosphere permeating the average campus
- The Morrill Act of 1862, was a land-grant program by federal government in support of training in agriculture and mechanic arts
- Philanthropists poured fortunes into institutions and founded new ones, educators introduced new courses and adopted new methods, and professional schools increased in number
- In 1869, a chemist Charles Eliot undertook a transformation of Harvard by introducing the elective system, gradually eliminating required courses and expanding offerings
- He also encouraged faculty to experiment with new teaching methods and brought in new professors
- Standard of medical school were raised
- Important development was founding of Johns Hopkins 1876, established by wealthy industrialists. Gilman, its first president modeled Hopkins on German universities, where meticulous research & freedom of inquiry were main principles.
- Johns Hopkins specialized in graduate education
- The school encouraged other wealthy individuals to endow universities offering advanced work
- At John Rockefellers creation, the University of Chicago, academic freedom was rule
- State and federal aid to higher education expanded rapidly
- Morrill Act, which granted land to each state at 30,000 acres for each senator and representative, provided endowments for universities
- Advances were made in women's higher education as Vassar college opened its doors to women students in 1865
- Wellesley and Smith both founded in 1875 completed the so called Big Three colleges
- Only professional careers easily available to women were nursing, teaching, and social work but women were determined to demonstrate their capabilities
- Elective system led to superficiality. Students gained a little knowledge of many subjects rather than mastering one
- Gifts of rich sometimes came with strings, and college boards were dominated by businessmen
- At many institutions, trustees exerted nagging pressures that limited academic freedom and scholarly objectivity
- As universities grew bigger, administration became more complicated and administrators rose inordinately
- Influence of alumni on educational policies began to make itself felt as campus social activities became more important
- Fraternities proliferated and sports were becoming contests
- Complex society required a more professional and specialized education for its youth
- Coarseness, materialism, and competitiveness found expression in colleges and universities

Scientific Advances

- Period produced intellectual achievements of highest quality
- Intellectuals created works that affected country profoundly
- A giant among figures was Josiah Willard Gibbs, a professor of mathematical physics at Yale who created a new science, physical chemistry
- Gibbs's ideas led to vital advances in metallurgy and manufacture of plastics, drugs, and other products
- Another figure was Albert Michelson of University of Chicago, who made first accurate measurements of speed of light and helped to prepare way for Einstein's theory of relativity. He was the first American scientist to win a Nobel Prize in 1907.

Revolution in the Social Sciences

- Close connection existed between issues of age and achievements of leading thinkers
- There was an application of theory of evolution and impact of industrialization on society
- Darwin increased the interest in studying development of institutions and their interactions
- Controversies over trusts, slum conditions, and other problems drew scholars into practical affairs
- Social scientists applied the scientific method to their own specialties
- Group of young economists who argued that as times changed, economic theories and laws must be modified in order to remain relevant
- This produced the institutionalist school of economics, whose members made investigations of labor unions, sweatshops, factories, and mines
- Similar revolution struck sociology in mid-1880s as people began to reject idea of government interference with organization of society. The group's leader was Herbert Spencer, who twisted ideas of Darwin to mean that society could be changed only by force of evolution
- Nineteenth-century thinkers concerned themselves with abstractions, such as states' rights, and ignored aspect of politics, such as parties and pressure groups
- Woodrow Wilson analyzed the American political system and viewed politics a dynamic process and offered no objection to expansion of state power

Progressive Education

- Good teaching now called for professional training, psychological insight, enthusiasm, and imagination
- Evolutionists were pressing for a kind of education that would help children to "survive" by adapting to demands of their environment
- John Dewey, a professor, summarized and gave direction to forces. He was concerned with implications of evolution for education
- In 1896, Dewey founded the Laboratory School to put educational ideas to the test
- He stated that education was the fundamental method of social progress and reform and children's imagination, energy, and curiosity are tools for broadening their outlook and increasing their store of information
- The school should become an instrument for social reform and help to produce a society which is worth and harmonious
- Dewey soon assumed leadership of progressive education and change was in the air

Law and History

- Even jurisprudence felt pressure of evolutionary thought and new emphasis on studying institutions
- Oliver Holmes Jr. published *The Common Law* in 1881 and rejected ideas that judges should limit themselves to mechanical explication of statutes and that law consisted only of what was written in law books. He argued that necessities of the time rather than precedent should determine rules by which people are governed.
- Laws should evolve as times and conditions change
- This reasoning caused no reversal of judicial practice
- An essentially democratic concept was the frontier thesis of Frederick Jackson Turner, who wrote essay arguing that frontier experience had affected the thinking of people and shape of institutions. He claimed that everything unique in our culture could be traced to existence of frontier
- Turner's work showed how important it was to investigate evolution of institutions and encouraged historians to study social and economic subjects

Realism in Literature

- Romanticism had lost its creative force and most writing in decade after 1865 was sentimental trash pandering to preconceptions of middle-class readers
- Magazines overflowed with stories about fair ladies worshiped by heroes, women coping with drunken husbands, and poor youths rising through combinations of virtue and assiduity to positions of wealth and influence
- Most writers tended to ignore eternal conflicts inherent in human nature and social problems as entertainment appeared their only objectives
- Important forces giving rise to Age of Realism were industrialism, the theory of evolution, and new science
- Novelists undertook examination of social problems, conflict between capital and labor, and political corruption

Mark Twain

- Outstanding figure of western literature and first great American realist was Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens)
- Earlier he had published humorous stories about local life
- He got recognized with such stores as “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras county” and *The Innocents Abroad*
- Twain’s greatness stemmed from his reportorial eye and ear, eagerness to life to the full, his sense of humor, and ability to be at once in society and outside
- He wrote about America and Europe, his own times and feudal past, about tourists, slaves, tycoons, cracker-barrel philosophers, and human destiny
- Twain excelled every contemporary in the portrayal of character
- Twain’s masterpiece was *Huckleberry Finn* in 1884
- Twain always put much of his experience and feeling into his work
- His confusions, clash between recognition of pretentiousness and meanness of humans and wish to be accepted added depth to his writing
- His works caught the spirit of the age

The Pragmatic Approach

- Theory of evolution, important in altering views of science, history, and social relations, produced changes in thinking about religious and philosophical questions
- Evolution posed immediate challenge to religion and bitter controversy erupted
- Some provided religious persons with comfort that evolution, while true, was God’s way of ordering the universe
- Charles Peirce, an obscure thinker, argued that concepts could be fairly understood only in terms of their practical effort and that once evolution was believed; logic required that it accept the impermanence even of scientific laws. This philosophy is called pragmatism
- William James helped many readers to reconcile their religious faith with their increasing knowledge of psychology and physical universe
- James’s wide range and imagination made him the most influential philosopher of the time
- He rejected the deterministic interpretation of Darwinism and all other explanations
- He believed in free will and stated that the mind has a vote in determining truth
- The pragmatic approach inspired much of reform spirit
- James shattered the laissez-faire extremism
- His philosophy did much to revive optimism of reform movement
- Pragmatism brought Americans face-to-face with somber problems while it bred insecurity
- Theory justified that what worked was more important than what ought to be
- It encouraged materialism, anti-intellectualism, and other unlovely aspects of Americans

Industrialization

Famous Inventors and Their New Technologies

- From 1860 to 1900 a second, more complete wave of industrialization swept the country, this time focusing on new inventions such as electricity rather than the already explored steam power. Some memorable people involved in this were...
 - **Thomas Edison** [“The Wizard of Menlo Park”] – Edison first set up his lab in Menlo Park in **1876**, and in **1878** he formed the **Edison Electrical Company**, which was responsible for the invention of the **light bulb**, the **generator**, and many other appliances that utilized electricity. Edison was also memorable for his self-promotion and publicity efforts.
 - **George Westinghouse** – Westinghouse discovered how to use alternating current and transformers to transmit electricity over long distances. This made Edison’s generators feasible power sources. Westinghouse also devised an air break for RRD cars.
 - **Granville Woods** [“The Black Edison”] – Woods patented 35 electronics/communications things, including the electromagnetic brake and automatic circuit breaker. He sold them to GE.
 - **Henry Ford** – In the 1890s Ford experimented w/the internal combustion engine (i.e. car). But his biggest achievement was his manufacturing scheme – the mass-production of identical cars for mass consumption. Ford created the **Ford Motor Company** in **1903** and, by doing so, democratized the car.
 - **Du Pont Family** – The DP’s applied Ford’s techniques to the chemical industry, resulting in great innovations in plastics (**1911**) and new forms of efficient management.
 - **James Bonsack** – Bonsack revitalized the tobacco industry by inventing a machine for rolling cigarettes in **1876**. His invention was popularized by **James B. Duke**, owner of the American Tobacco Company.

- **Railroads** – development of land away from water sources. Lead to demand in coal. Increased shipping results in larger market. Cornelius Vanderbilt controls N.Y. Central.
- **Iron and Steel** – Andrew Carnegie controlled ¼ of the steel industry. Vertical organization to buy everything needed to make steel. Mesabi and Vermillion Range provided much of the country’s iron ore.
- **Coal** – used for steam engines. High costs. New deposits brought prices down.
- **Oil** – John D. Rockefeller’s cut throat competition involved horizontal organization (buy out competition) to create monopolies, high profits, efficiency, stability, and standardization. By 1898, 80% of the nation’s oil was owned by Rockefeller. Kerosene was a chief product.
- These developments encouraged general optimism, even in the South, where mills began to use automatic looms [fewer skilled workers] and electric lighting [longer hours]. These mills, like Southern steel and iron manufacturing, were developed by Northern investors in the 1880s. But e/t the South was improving, it would not really emerge until after WWI.
- Remember: new marketing techniques and new inventions went hand in hand. The key thing about the successful inventors was that they knew how to sell their stuff. The rise of the machine also led to changes in the economy that made large-scale production more profitable and desirable [**economies of scale**] and created a new focus on **efficiency**, as advocated by **Frederick W. Taylor** [efficiency = science].

The Effect of the Machine on the Economy

- Industrialization implied that factories had to be large and operate at capacity to make profits; but they also had to sell, which meant prices had to remain low. To make this possible, businesses had to expand production and reduce wages. This required loans, and loans required more production, and so on. This cycle effectively wiped out small firms.
- Consequently, to deal with the constant uncertainty of the market conditions, businesses began centralizing to control their corners of the market. Some consolidating techniques included...
 - **Corporations:** Under corporation laws, anyone could start a company and raise money by selling stock to investors, who would face no personal risk other than the money they invested. Corporations gained more power due to SC rulings in the 1880s and 1890s that gave them the same 14th Amendment protections as individuals.
 - **Pools:** Basically, pools were “Gentlemen’s Agreements” between companies that set limits on production and agreed to the sharing of profits. Since they depended on honesty, though, their usefulness had already died by the time they were outlawed among RRDs in **1887**.
 - **Trusts:** Originated by Rockefeller, trusts relied on the principle that one company could control another by forcing it to yield control of its stock to the bigger company’s board of trustees. This allowed for **horizontal integration**, which was pioneered by **Rockefeller** in **1882** w/Standard Oil [ex. take over all oil refineries].
 - **Holding Companies:** In **1888** New Jersey allowed corporations to own property in other states and own stock in other corporations. This led to the holding company, which owned interest in other companies and could help merge them. This led to **vertical integration** like **Gustavus Swift** achieved w/meat processing [ex. take over all meat related industries].
- So mergers were answer to the search for order and profits in the business world. The biggest corporation of the time was the **USSteel Corporation**, created by **J.P. Morgan** in **1901**. Speaking of J.P., the merger movement created those wonderful people we all know and love, the brokers, who specialized in engineering mergers. Everyone joined the investing frenzy; regulations were loosened, laissez-faire, etc.

The Effect of the Machine on Labor

- Mechanization obviously meant big changes for workers, who were forced to acclimate themselves to new factory conditions that minimized their independence. Some significant trends included:
 - *The replacement of the producer by the employee:* most workers no longer were their own bosses. Instead, they were paid for time on the job.
 - *Specialization and the devaluation of skilled labor:* workers in mass-production assembly lines found themselves doing the same stupid little task over and over again instead of making their own decisions about techniques, starting and stopping times, etc.
 - *Increased company control:* in efforts to increase worker efficiency, employers tried to establish temperance/reform societies and control workers’ social lives. Other employers began paying per item produced rather than by hour.
 - *Employment of women and children:* as the need for skilled workers decreased, employers cut costs by hiring women and children for assembly lines. Women also worked in the service sector and in sales/secretarial positions. By 1900, some state laws limited the employment of children, but many companies still got away with it.
 - *Decreased independence:* in addition to finding their actual jobs more constricting, workers found that their wages were largely beyond their control and were often unable to find steady work – i.e. they were trapped by the system.
 - *New threats at the workplace:* workers encountered industrial accidents, etc.

- So basically the machine gave the workers the crap end of the deal. Worse still, they weren't allowed to organize effectively as a result of a series of anti-labor decisions, and free-market views made it difficult for legislation dealing with working hours and conditions to be passed.
- Supreme Court cases dealing with labor regulation:
 - *Holden v. Hardy (1896)* – Court upheld regulation on miners' working hours
 - *Lochner v. New York (1905)* – Court rejected regulation on bakers' working hours b/c job not considered to be dangerous, interference w/contract = violation of Fourteenth Amendment
 - *Muller v. Oregon (1908)* – Court upheld regulation on women laundry workers' working hours, claiming that women needed special protection, led to laws banning women from occupations
- Generally, though, workers did not make much progress, which led to the...

The Union Movement

- Important **strikes/events** relating to the Unions:
 - **1877**: In July, Unionized RRD workers struck to protest wage cuts [b/c of **Panic of 1873**]. The strikes led to violence, which was broken up by state militia companies hired by the employers. Strikebreakers were also hired. Finally Hayes sent federal troops to quell the unrest. After 1877, the union movement really began picking up speed. Trade unions, which specialized in skilled workers in particular crafts, had been around for years, but no real organizations of nat'l scope survived the panic except for the **Knights of Labor**.
 - **Haymarket Riot** [May 1, 1886]: In Chicago, several groups joined for the campaign for an 8-hour workday and organized mass strikes and labor demonstrations. Workers involved included the craft unions as well as anarchists. Consequently, in response to an outbreak of police brutality a bomb was set off in Haymarket Square [presumably by anarchists], resulting in the arrest of 8 immigrant radicals, some of who were pardoned. The HR led to increased paranoia with respect to anarchism and labor.
 - **July 1892**: AFL-affiliated Iron and Steelworkers Association went on strike in Pennsylvania, causing **Henry Frick** to close the plant and hire Pinkerton detectives to defend it. Although the strikers eventually gave in, it gave the union more bad PR due to workers attacking, etc.
 - **Pullman Strike** [1894]: To protest Pullman's policies in his company town, workers walked out at the factory. Pullman would not negotiate, so workers for the American Railway Union called a strike. Pullman closed the factory; the Union [**Eugene V. Debs**] refused to handle Pullman cars; and finally a court injunction was used to stop the strike.
- Important workers' organizations:
 - **Knights of Labor**: Founded in **1869** by **Terence V. Powderly**, the KOL welcomed all unskilled and semiskilled workers on a nat'l level. The basic ideology of the KOL was pretty utopian: i.e. they wanted to get rid of capitalism in favor of a "cooperative workers' alliance" in which workers worked for themselves. Consequently, the KOL refused to strike, b/c it would go against the "cooperative" idea. As a result of their cooperative policies, the KOL lost influence, esp. after, in **1886**, a strike began among a sector of the KOL against RRD boss Jay Gould to protest cut wages. Powderly met with Gould and called off the strike, but Gould would not concede, so the militant unions began to quit the KOL, seeing it as weak.
 - **American Federation of Labor**: The AFL emerged as the major organization after **1866**. Led by **Samuel Gompers**, it avoided the KOL idealistic rhetoric, concentrated on concrete goals [higher wages, shorter hours, right to bargain collectively], and excluded unskilled workers and women. The AFL also avoided party politics.
 - **Industrial Workers of the World** [IWW, "Wobblies"]: The IWW, which aimed to unite all workers, was basically a socialist/anarchist organization that believed violence was justified to overthrow capitalism. The organization finally collapsed in WWI.
- *Women in the Union movement*: most Unions rejected women due to a fear of competition [women would work for lower wages] and sex segregation. Still, some women formed their own Unions, and in **1903** the **Women's Trade Union League** was founded. The WTUL encouraged protective legislation, education, and women's suffrage – it was an important link between labor and the women's movements.
- *Immigrants/AA in the Union movement*: most Unions also rejected immigrants and African Americans b/c of lower wages, and prejudices were reinforced when blacks worked as strikebreakers.
- REMEMBER only a portion of workers were in unions; job instability really made it hard for organizations to form effectively. Fraternal societies were also prevalent during the time.

Standards of Living

- Industrialization created the beginnings of the monster we now know as our fully commercialized society. Formerly isolated communities began to, through electricity and communications, get access to good and services. Status became more based on \$ [more mobility]; but the gap between rich and poor grew.
- Incomes rose a lot, but then again so did prices. Working class families could hypothetically afford new stuff, but they would

have had to find additional sources of income [i.e. subletting, child labor]. Overall, though, paid employment became more prevalent, leading to the growth of our commercial society.

- *Some symptoms of commercialization*: higher life expectancy due to advances in medical care and better diets, more upwards mobility [education became key], flush toilets, processed and preserved foods, ready-made clothing, department and chain stores, and my personal favorite, advertising.

Ideologies of the Time

- So what do you say when many small businesses are being ruthlessly crushed by mega-big moguls? It's easy! **Social Darwinism**, originally advocated by **Herbert Spencer**, was taken over by Professor **William Sumner** & stated that the survival of the fittest implied that the gov't should stay out & let the rightful winners take their share. Monopolies = natural accumulation of power.
- To add on to that, there was the **Andrew Carnegie Gospel of Wealth** concept: wealth carries moral responsibilities, and its good we moguls have it all b/c that way we can be the guardians of society. Still, some industrialists did give a lot to charities.
- It's important to note that, though laissez-faire was the big concept, business leaders still pressed the gov't for assistance, which it provided in the form of tariffs on foreign goods [allowed them to raise prices], subsidies, loans, and tax breaks.
- Naturally, all this activity didn't go by unnoticed, and some people certainly spoke out against it, portraying corporations as greedy and voicing fears of monopolies.
- Some favored gov't regulation or even socialism.
- As a result, of popular pressure, states began to prohibit monopolies. But a nat'l level of legislation was needed, and it only came in **1890** with the **Sherman Anti-Trust Act**, which was left vague but made illegal anything that was in "restraint of trade." Ironically, through, the act was used against striking workers more than it was against trusts.
- A short list of SC cases regarding trusts:
 - *Munn v. IL (1877)* – RRDs discriminated against farmers, so IL passed pro-farming legislation in the *Grange Laws*. This was challenged by the corporations, but the SC ruled in favor of state regulation b/c it had a direct effect on the general public.
 - *Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific RR Co. v. IL (1886)* – Reversal of 1877 decision, only the federal gov't was declared able to regulate interstate commerce.
 - *US v. EC Knight Co. (1895)* – Sugar company had monopolized industry, so Cleveland ordered a case against the trust, but the SC ruled that the sugar people were in manufacturing, not commerce, so it was okay.